

From: Gregory Peterson
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/8/01 2:33am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom it May Concern,

Microsoft has proven to be very adept at locating loop holes in the law, and stretching the business ethics that govern business in the US. While commerce isn't necessarily governed by ethics as much as

by law, an argument could be made that there are certain behaviors that deem a reward and other behaviors that require condemnation. Microsoft has been a powerful, positive influence on the US and global

economy. Bill Gates has made many personal contributions to charities. But by all indications, Microsoft has no intention, and has never had any intention, of competing in an open market. Now that they have

effectively eliminated any commercial entities that may have produced a competing operating system, who is left to lead the charge? Competition serves not only the financial concerns of the market, but it also serves

to push technology forward in many different, unpredictable and ultimately beneficial ways. Any settlement that leaves Microsoft intact, or that allows their input, will only serve Microsoft's interests.

Simply revealing the

Grand jury disposition of Bill Gates will reveal the combative and elusive nature his company has inherited from his leadership. Make no mistake, Microsoft is no more interested in a fair settlement today than they were

three years ago. They will subvert the meaning of any settlement and challenge the courts to years long battles. Microsoft must be stilled now.

Greg Peterson